#### IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

#### FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE

JOURDEAN LORAH,

Plaintiff.

Civil Action No. 06-539 SLR

v.

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL and THE PMA GROUP,

Defendants.

#### MOTION TO DISMISS ON BEHALF OF DEFENDANT, THE PMA GROUP

Defendant, The PMA Group<sup>1</sup>, ("PMA"), by and through the undersigned counsel, White and Williams, LLP, hereby respectfully requests that the Court enter the attached order dismissing plaintiff's complaint pursuant to Fed. R. of Civ. P. 12 (b)(1), (b)(4), (b)(5) and (b)(6) for failure to allege a federal controversy; failure to state a claim upon which relief can be granted; insufficient process and service of process. In support of its motion,<sup>2</sup> PMA states the following:

1. Plaintiff filed the complaint in this matter with the Court on September 1, 2006 alleging what is believed to be "gender discrimination" against the plaintiff.<sup>3</sup> However, plaintiff fails to explain how she was subjected to the alleged discrimination, if any. Plaintiff's vague, ambiguous claims should be dismissed for failure to allege a federal controversy and failure to state a claim upon which relief can be granted.

#### PLAINTIFF FAILS TO ALLEGE A FEDERAL CONTROVERSY

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> PMA Management Corp. is improperly named as "The PMA Group" in plaintiff's complaint.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> PMA waives its right to file an opening brief and opts to submit this motion in lieu of an opening brief pursuant to Local Rule 7.1.2. PMA reserves the right to file a reply brief.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Plaintiff's "Complaint", attached hereto as Exhibit A.

- 2. Plaintiff has filed her complaint without alleging a federal controversy. Plaintiff bears the burden of establishing statutory jurisdiction with this Court. *Kokkonen v. Guardian Life Ins. Co.*, 511 U.S. 375, 377 (1994); see also Fed. R. of Civ. P. 12 (b)(1). Dismissal for lack of subject matter jurisdiction is appropriate if the rights claimed by Plaintiff are "so insubstantial, implausible, foreclosed by prior decisions of this Court, or otherwise completely devoid of merit as not to involve a federal controversy." *Coxson v. Commonwealth of Pa.*, 935 F. Supp. 624, 626 (W.D. Pa. 1996) (citing Growth Horizons, Inc. v. Delaware County, Pa., 983 F.2d 1277, 1280-81 (3d Cir. 1993). The district court must grant a motion to dismiss if it finds that the plaintiff has failed to demonstrate a federal question on the face of the complaint. See Mortensen v. First Federal Savings & Loan Assoc., 549 F.2d 884, 891 (3d. Cir. 1977).
- 3. Because plaintiff has failed to allege a federal controversy in her complaint, she has failed to meet her burden of establishing jurisdiction with this Court and dismissal is appropriate.

#### PLAINTIFF FAILS TO REFERENCE ANY ACTION ON THE PART OF PMA IN HER COMPLAINT

4. Plaintiff's complaint alleges that her constitutional rights were violated and, arguably, that she "has suffered economically and physically regarding the false records of the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control." As PMA understands the limited facts presented in plaintiff's exhibits to her complaint, plaintiff is seeking compensation arising out of the handling of a worker's compensation claim, claim number W8903-43819, by PMA on behalf of the Delaware Department of Natural Resources & Environmental Control for its employee, Jordan Lorah. It appears that plaintiff claims to be aggrieved by documents that

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Exhibit A.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> The purported facts were discovered in Plaintiff's Exhibits to her Complaint and not alleged in the body of the Complaint itself.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> State of Delaware First Report of Occupational Injury of Disease, Exhibit A.

she may have received regarding the worker's compensation claim of Jordan Lorah.<sup>7</sup> The plaintiff does not appear to have any relationship or connection with Jordan Lorah.<sup>8</sup> However, plaintiff has failed to explain the alleged "gender discrimination" on the part of the defendants that would enable her to recover damages. Plaintiff has also failed to explain how she has suffered "economically and physically" as a result of any alleged conduct.

- 5. Pursuant to Federal Rule 12(b)(6), a party may move to dismiss a complaint for failure to state a claim upon which relief can be granted. Fed. R. Civ. P. 12(b)(6). The purpose of a motion to dismiss is to test the sufficiency of the complaint, not to resolve disputed facts or decide the merits of the case. *Kost v. Kozakiewicz*, 1 F.3d 176, 183 (3d. Cir. 1993). Therefore, when considering a motion to dismiss, the Court must accept as true all allegations in the complaint and must draw all reasonable inferences in the light most favorable to the plaintiff. *Neitzke v. Williams*, 490 U.S. 319, 326 (1989); *Piecknick v. Pennsylvania*, 36 F.3d 1250, 1255 (3d. Cir. 1994). However, the Court is "not required to accept legal conclusions either alleged or inferred from the pleaded facts." *Kost*, 1 F.3d at 1983. Dismissal of a complaint is appropriate when "it appears beyond doubt that plaintiff can prove no set of facts in support of his claims which would entitle him to relief." *Conley v. Gibson*, 355 U.S. 41, 45 (1957). When the facts pleaded and the reasonable inferences drawn therefrom are legally insufficient to support the relief sought, the Court may dismiss the complaint. *See Pennsylvania ex. rel. Zimmerman v. PepsiCo., Inc.*, 836 F.2d 173, 179 (3d. Cir. 1988).
- 6. Review of the plaintiff's complaint in this matter reveals that there are no factual allegations made directly against PMA and, as such, the complaint fails to state a claim for relief under Rule 12(b)(6) on this ground. Simply put, to allow this complaint to go forward based on

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> State of Delaware Office of Workers' Compensation Agreement as to Compensation and Receipt for Compensation Paid, Exhibit A.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> See Exhibit A.

the lack of allegations detailing PMA involvement will severely prejudice PMA's ability to defend this suit.

7. Additionally, if plaintiff's intent was to assert an equal protection claim, plaintiff has failed to allege how she received disparate treatment based upon her gender. *See Batson v. Kentucky*, 476 U.S. 79, 93, 106 S.Ct. 1712 (1986). Therefore, dismissal is appropriate for failure to state a claim pursuant to Rule 12(b)(6).

#### INSUFFICIENT PROCESS AND SERVICE OF PROCESS

8. In her Complaint, plaintiff improperly named The PMA Group as a defendant. The correct entity is PMA Management Corp. Therefore, PMA moves to dismiss all claims against it pursuant to Fed. R. of Civ. P. Rule 12(b)(4) and (5) for insufficient process and service of process.

WHEREFORE, based upon plaintiff's failure to allege a federal controversy, failure to state a claim against PMA and insufficient process and service of process, PMA respectfully requests that the Court enter the attached order and dismiss plaintiff's complaint.

WHITE AND WILLIAMS LLP

gerniger R. Hunity

JOHN D. BALAGUER (#2537)

JENNIFER HURVITZ BURBINE (#4416)

Page 4 of 4

824 North Market Street, Suite 902

P.O. Box 709

Wilmington, DE 19899-0709

(302) 467-4531

Attorneys for Defendant, The PMA Group

Dated: February 12, 2007

United States District Court \$544 King Street Wilmington, Delaware 19801

Jourdean Lorah - Plaintiff 114 Walls Ave. Wilmington, Delaware 19805

08-559

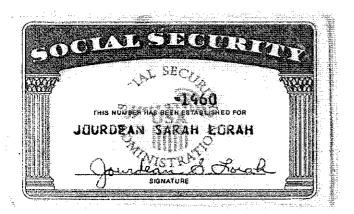
V.

Department of Natural Resources And Environmental Control - Defendant 89 Kings Highway Dover, Delaware 19901

The PMA Group- Defendant P.O. Box 25249 Lehigh Valley, Pennsylvania 18002-5249 2006 AUG 31 PH 3: 46 SED SCAMPED

## MOTION TO CONSIDER THE GENDER DISCRIMINATION WHICH VIOLATES THE PLAINTIFF'S RIGHTS

Plaintiff, Jourdean Lorah respectively prays and requests that the United States District Court considers the following documents from The Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control. The Plaintiff, Jourdean Lorah is not an eighteen year old man named Jordan Lorah (gender discrimination). The identification number, age and sex does not match the identification of Plaintiff Jourdean Lorah. The Plaintiff, Jourdean Lorah has suffered economically and physically regarding the false records of The Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control. Plaintiff, Jourdean Lorah believes that she should be compensated for her losses.



DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
DIVISION OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE
GEORGETOWN LOCAL OFFICE
P.O. BOX 548
GEORGETOWN, DE 19947-0548

60-06-100 OFFICIAL BUSINESS PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE \$300

JOURDEAN LORAH RT. 5 BOX 150-318 FRANKFORD, DE 19945

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U-HHSME 19945

Office of Anothers, Combensation PO Box 8902 Wilm, DE 19899-8902 302-761-8200

#### STATE OF DELAWARE FIRST REPORT OF OCCUPATIONAL INJURY OR DISEASE

40-0600-210 LOCATION/DEPT

299400-76-21-40-2 INSURANCE POLICY NUMBER

1. EMPLOYEE: FIR	RST MI	DOLE	LAST			:	2. EMP	LOYEE SOCIAL	SECURITY NO.		
Jordan Lorah						2004					
Jordan Lorah  3. ADDRESS – INCLUDE COUNTY AND ZIP CODE 4. MALE 5 Route 5 Box 150, 318 Frankford, DE 19945, Sussex Co. FEMALE							6601 EMPLOY LE TELEPHONE NUMBER (302) - 539 - 4773				
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32. DESCRIBE HOW THE	INJURY/ILLNESS	OCCURRED.					*************	·			
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# STATE OF DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL 89 KINGS HIGHWAY DOVER, DELAWARE 19901

HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICE

TELEPHONE: (302) 739-5823 FAX: (302) 739-7571

TO:

Jordan Lorah

FROM:

Bonnie Korstange

DATE:

July 8, 2003

RE:

Workers' Compensation Procedure Letter

### PLEASE NOTIFY YOUR MEDICAL PROVIDER. ALL BILLS AND/OR SERVICES AND SUPPLIES PERTAINING TO AN INJURY MUST BE SENT DIRECTLY TO:

THE PMA GROUP
P. O. BOX 25249
Lehigh Valley, PA 18002-5249

- 1. In the event of an on-the-job injury, it is mandatory that your supervisor submit signed originals of "Employer's Report of Occupational Injury or Disease" and "DNREC Workers' Compensation Investigation Form", to the Human Resource Office within two working days for processing the Worker's Compensation Claim. The Department is responsible for reporting claims to the Workers' Compensation carrier within ten (10) days or is subject to fines. Supervisors have the authority and responsibility to ensure compliance.
- 2. If you are instructed to remain off work, you and your Supervisor are to contact the Human Resource Office immediately to let us know the diagnosis, how long you will be out of work and the name and address of the treating physician. The original doctor's note must be sent to the Human Resource Office after each doctor's appointment.
- 3. Your timekeeper will provide your work schedule to the Human Resource office to determine the amount of compensation due you.
- 4. When your claim is approved, the Department will pay 1/3 and Workers' Compensation will pay 2/3 of your pay equal to your anticipated carnings for up to three (3) months or your seasonal position ends, whichever comes first.

#### DELAWARE WAGE SCHEDULE

Claim No. Adjuster No.: Injured Worker: Jordan Lorah SS#: 1 5601 In order to calculate employee's compensation rate, in accordance with Section 2302 of the Delaware Workers' Compensation Act, the information below must be provided. If the rate of wages is fixed by the day or hour, his weekly wages shall be taken to be the rate times the number of days or hours in an average work week of his employer at the time of the injury. Daily Rate OR: \$9.50 Per hour Number of Days/Hours in Average Work Week: Varies If the rate of employee's wage are fixed by the output of the employee, then his weekly wage is taken to be his average weekly earnings for so much of the preceding six months as he has worked for the same employer. If because of exceptional causes such method of computation does not ascertain fairly the earnings of an employee, then the weekly wage shall be based on the average earnings for six months of an average employee of the same or most similar employment. Note: When no valuation is fixed on board and lodging by the parties in the contract of hire or at the time of hiring, the valuation for the purpose of computing compensation shall be established as follows: (1) For board - \$3.00 per day, regardless whether this applies to 1, 2, 04 3 meals per day; (2) For lodging - \$3.00 per day or night. Therefore, these amount must be added to the above weekly wages if the employee

receives board and lodging which is not specified in the employment contract.

Weekly Wage (as calculated above):

+ \_\_\_\_\_

+\_\_\_\_\_

Board

Lodging

Total/New Weekly Wage



July 15, 2003

JORDAN LORAH ROUTE 5 BOX 150-318 FRANKFORD DE 19945

Dear JORDAN LORAH

We at The PMA Management Corp are in receipt of a Workers' Compensati claim submitted by your employer. In order to speed the processing of your claim, we ask that you sign and return the enclosed Medical Authorization form and provide your health professionals with your assigned claim number.

Client: STATE OF DELAWARE

Date of Accident: 06/29/03 Claim Number: W8903-43819

Policy/Contract Number: 290200-7621402

Social Security Number: -6601

Please refer to your assigned claim number in all correspondence. Please mail your Medical Authorization, any medical bills or medical reports to:

PMA Corporate Processing Center PO Box 25249 Lehigh Valley, PA 18002-5249

Please note that the Delaware law requires notification that the statute of limitations for Workers' Compensation claims is two years. If the claim has been accepted as compensable and payments (medical or indemnity made to the employee, the statute of limitations is five years from the date of last payment.

To contact us, please write to us at the above address or call us toll free at 1-888-4PMA-NOW (1-888-476-2669) and have your claim number ready.

Sincerely,

The PMA Management Corp

Any person who knowingly, and with intent to injure, defraud or deceive any insurer, file a statement of claim containing any false, incomplete or misleading information is guilty of a felony.

MO-C

State of Delaware Department of Labor Division of Unemployment insurance



Notice of Determination UC-409

Claimant JOURDEAN S. LORAH

Address

114 WALLS AV

WILMINGTON, DE 19805

SS Number: 1 Local Office: 2

1460

Delivered by Mail

Fund Code: 10

Redet: No Count: Yes

Claim Date: 10/09/2005

Date of AC: //

Case Number: 238636

#### Findings of Fact:

The claimant field for benefits and indicated she was permanently laid off with severance. She was paid accordingly. The employer submitted subsequent information indicating the claimant was discharged, "not suitable for position." However it was learned, in a phone interview with the employer, there was no misconduct on the claimant's part.

In a discharge case, the burden of proof is with the employer to prove the claimant was discharged with just cause. Just cause for discharge refers to a willful or wanton act in violation of either the employer's interest or of the employee's duties or of the employee's expected standard of conduct. The employer has not met this burden. The claimant is eligible as she was discharged without just cause in connection with the work.

#### Title 19 of Delaware Code 3314(2)

An individual shall be disqualified for benefits: For the week in which he was discharged from his work for just cause in connection with his work and for each week thereafter until he has been employed in each of 4 subsequent weeks (whether or not consecutive) and has earned wages in covered employment equal to not less than 4 times the weekly benefit amount.

#### Determination:

You were discharged by your employer without just cause in connection with the work. Therefore, you are not disqualified from receiving unemployment insurance benefits pursuant to Section 3314(2), Title 19, Delaware Code and will be eligible to receive benefits for each week of unemployment insurance benefits claimed for which the division determines you meet the eligibility requirements of Section 3315, Title 19, Delaware Code. The division shall issue a determination for any week(s) of unemployment insurance benefits claimed for which you are subsequently deemed ineligible to receive benefits.

#### Claims Deputy Signature:

Date: 11/03/2005

If you disagree with this determination, you should ask the Claims Deputy for an explanation. If you are not satisfied with the explanation, you may file an appeal.

#### Claimant and Employer Appeal Rights

This determination becomes final on unless a written appeal is filed. Your appeal must be received or postmarked on or 11/13/2005 before the date indicated. If the last date to file an appeal falls on a Saturday, Sunday or Legal Holiday, the appeal will be acceptable the next business day.

if you file an appeal and are still unemployed, you must continue to file weekly claim pay authorization forms with the local office as instructed, until you receive a final decision.

Name and Address

Employer HILLCREST ASSOCIATES

ATTN: PERSONNELL 1760 FLINT HILL RD

Your employer account will not be charged on this claim benefit year, but may be subject to a charge in a subsequent claim benefit year.

ORTHOPEDIC SPECIALISTS, P.A. ANDREW J. GELMAN, D.O. MOHAMMAD KAMALI, M.D. JOSEPH MESA, M.D. DOUGLAS PALMA, M.D. J. DOUGLAS PATTERSON, M.D. MICHAEL DOWD, PA-C CRAIG KATZ, PA-C 1096 OLD CHURCHMAN'S ROAD NEWARK, DE 19713-2102 DEA #

(302) 655-9494 UC. e AGE DATE [ ADDRESS HX ILLEGAL IF NOT SAFETY BLUE BACKGROUND Substitution Permitted IN ORDER FOR A BRAND NAME PRODUCT TO BE DISPENSED, THE PRESCRIBER MUST HAND WRITE "PRAND NECESSARY" OR "BRAND MEDICALLY NECESSARY IN THE PACE BELLY. 5GOS0290866

AO FORM 85 B	ECEDT OFV	0/04\

United States District Court for the District of Delaware

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Civil Action No.					

#### **ACKNOWLEDGMENT** OF RECEIPT FOR AO FORM 85

#### NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF A UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE TO EXERCISE JURISDICTION

I HEREBY ACKNOWLEDGE REG	CEIPT OF COPIES OF AO FORM 85.
(Date forms issued)	(Signature of Party or their Representative)
	(Printed name of Party or their Representative)
Note: Completed receipt will be filed	in the Civil Action

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%JS 44 (Rev. 11/04)

#### CIVIL COVER SHEET

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE REVERSE OF THE FORM.)

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#### IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

#### FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE

JOURDEAN LORAH,

Plaintiff,

Civil Action No. 06-539 SLR

ν.

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL and THE PMA GROUP,

Defendants.

#### **ORDER**

**HAVING CONSIDERED** The PMA Groups's motion to dismiss plaintiff's complaint, and all responses thereto;

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that plaintiff's complaint is DISMISSED WITH PREJUDICE insofar as the complaint is brought against The PMA Group.

The Honorable Sue L. Robinson

#### IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

#### FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE

JOURDEAN LORAH,

Plaintiff,

Civil Action No. 06-539 SLR

v.

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL and THE PMA GROUP,

Defendants.

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I, Jennifer Hurvitz Burbine, Esquire, do hereby certify that on this 12<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2007, two copies of the above foregoing MOTION TO DISMISS were served upon the following via first class mail, postage prepaid:

Jourdean Lorah 114 Walls Avenue Wilmington, DE 19805 Robert F. Phillips, Esquire Department of Justice 820 N. French Street, 6th Floor Wilmington, DE 19801

WHITE AND WILLIAMS LLP

gerniger R. Hunity

JOHN D. BALAGUER (#2537) JENNIFER HURVITZ BURBINE (#4416) 824 North Market Street, Suite 902 P.O. Box 709 Wilmington, DE 19899-0709 (302) 467-4531

Attornesy for Defendant, The PMA Group